

January 30, 2004

Mary L. Cottrell
Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Re: DTE 03-60; Motion to Strike of the Loop/Transport Carrier Coalition

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

Conversent Communications of Massachusetts, LLC ("Conversent") hereby files this letter in lieu of comments in connection with the Motion to Strike of the Loop/Transport Carrier Coalition. Conversent supports the motion to strike the testimony of John Conroy and John White insofar as it claims that certain Verizon-specified transport routes meet the FCC's wholesale triggers for dark fiber, DS-1 and DS-3 transport. Verizon has failed to provide route specific information that would enable the Department to make a non-impairment finding for any transport route based on the wholesale triggers. First, Verizon has simply failed to demonstrate that the carriers upon which it is relying to meet the wholesale triggers for the specified routes in Verizon's testimony are "operationally ready" to provide transport along these specified routes.¹ Second, Verizon has failed to demonstrate that a single one of these carriers makes dark fiber, DS-1 or DS-3 transport "widely available" along the specific routes for which it is seeking a non-impairment finding.² As a result of these deficiencies, the DTE can have no confidence that any of the routes identified in Verizon's testimony satisfy the FCC's wholesale triggers for dark fiber, DS-1 and DS-3 transport. Accordingly, the Department should grant the Motion to Strike of the Loop/Transport Carrier Coalition.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Sawyer
Vice President of Regulatory Affairs & Counsel
Conversent Communications of Massachusetts, LLC

SS/cw

cc: Service List

¹ The "operationally ready" requirement is set forth in §51.319(e)(1)(ii)(A), §51.319(e)(2)(i)(B)(1); and §51.319(e)(3)(i)(B)(2) for DS-1, DS-3 and dark fiber transport respectively.

² The "widely available" requirement is set forth in §51.319(e)(i)(ii)(B), §51.319(e)(2)(i)(B)(2); and §51.319(e)(3)(i)(B)(2) for DS-1, DS-3 and dark fiber transport respectively.